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EXAMINER	
HENNING, MATTHEW T	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

MN

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/719,812	TOMKOW, TERRENCE A.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matthew T. Henning	2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 November 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-24,26-28,30-40 and 43-47* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-24,26-28,30-40 and 43-47* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *10 May 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

This action is in response to the communication filed on 11/05/2007.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Regarding applicant's arguments with respect to claim 24, contrary to applicant's allegation that claim 24 has been amended to recite "sending an attachment separate from a message", the examiner notes that no amendment adding this limitation to the claim has been made, and as such the argument has not been further addressed. The examiner further notes that there is no recitation in claim 24 regarding an attachment or decompression of an attachment. As such the examiner does not find the argument persuasive.

Regarding applicant's arguments with respect to claim 46, that Tomkow does not disclose "[A]separating the hash from a string including the hash, [B]hashing information relating to the identification of the sender, the attachment and the message stripped of the attachment, [C]and then comparing the hash separated from the string and the hash formed from the information of the sting", the examiner does not find the arguments persuasive. Tomkow discloses [A] on page 41 Lines 32-33. The document digital signature is the hash in encrypted form, which is then decrypted after separating it from the rest of the e-mail (string). Tomkow discloses [B] on Page 42 Lines 1-2. There is nothing in the claim language that limits the meaning of an "attachment" to anything other than its ordinary meaning, and as such applicant's argument is not persuasive. Tomkow' discloses [C] on page 42 Lines 2-5. As such, the examiner does not find the argument persuasive.

Applicant's arguments with respect to the remaining claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claims 1-24,26-28,30-40 and 43-47 have been examined.

Claim Objections

Claims 13-14, 19, 21, and 23 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 13, 19, 21, and 23 are all improperly labeled as "Original" while containing markings indicating changes to the claims.

Claim 14 lacks a terminating period and further was amended to recite "attachment1" which lacks antecedent basis in the claim.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tomkow (WO 01/10090).

Regarding claim 24 , Tomkow disclosed in a method of transmitting a message from a sender to a recipient through a server displaced from the recipient (See Tomkow Abstract), the steps at the server of: receiving the message from the recipient at a web site providing at the server for an indication of the authenticity of the message (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 28-32); providing a compressed encrypted version of the message where the compression is a particular

compression and the encryption is a particular encryption (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 30-32); decompressing the message in accordance with the particular compression to provide a first digital fingerprint of the message (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 1-2); decrypting the compressed encrypted version of the message in accordance with the particular encryption to provide a second digital fingerprint of the message (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 30-32); and comparing the first and second digital fingerprints of the message to determine the authenticity of the message (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 2-15).

Regarding claims 26 Tomkow disclosed that the message is received at the server through the internet and wherein the message and the digital signature of the message are transmitted to the recipient through the internet, and that the state of authenticity of the message is transmitted through the internet to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 43 Lines 3-28).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-23, 27-28, 30-32, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tomkow, and further in view of Meyer et al. (Patent Application Publication US 2002/0143871) hereinafter referred to as Meyer.

Regarding claims 1, 8, and 14, Tomkow disclosed a method of transmitting a message from a sender to a recipient through a server displaced from the recipient (See Tomkow Abstract), including the steps at the server of: receiving the message at the server from the sender (See Tomkow Page 29 Lines 16-18), transmitting from the server to the recipient the message and an attachment including the identity and address of the recipient and the identity of the sender and the time of the transmittal (See Tomkow Page 30 Line 14 – Page 31 Line 26), receiving the message and the attachment at the server from the recipient (See Tomkow Page 30 Line 14 – Page 31 Line 26), providing digital signatures of the message and the attachment at the server (See Tomkow Page 29 Lines 19 – Page 30 Line 11), and authenticating to the recipient the message and the attachment at the server on the basis of the information received by the recipient from the server and on the basis of the digital signatures provided by the server (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15), but Tomkow failed to disclose that the attachment was an HTML file or generating the HTML file at the server.

Meyer teaches that in at email server, meta-content can be added in the form of an html attachment to a email by (1) separating the email body from the header, (2) extracting the email send date, (3) extracting various named entities, (4) executing a summarization process to produce a document summary, (5) normalization of dates and currency, (6) color-encoding dates, (7) sorting and displaying dates, (8) annotation by color-coding, (9) creating hyperlinks to external HTML documents, and (10) converting special characters to HTML ampersand characters (See Meyer Fig. 1 and Fig. 7a and Paragraph 0091-0095).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Meyer in the E-mail system of Tomkow, by providing an

HTML index attachment, to each email of Tomkow, the index attachment containing meta-content. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to simplify the use and management of the e-mails for recipients. It further would have been obvious in this combination that the meta-content index would have been digitally signed and verified by the system, because Tomkow disclosed that the message and all attachments would be signed and verified (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-31).

Regarding claim 27, Tomkow disclosed in a method of transmitting a message from a sender to a recipient through a server displaced from the recipient (See Tomkow Abstract), the steps at the server of: receiving the message from the recipient at a web site providing at the server for an indication of the authenticity of the message (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 28-32); providing a compressed encrypted version of the message where the compression is a particular compression and the encryption is a particular encryption (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 30-32); receiving an attachment from the recipient at the website where the reception of the attachment is at the same time as the reception of the message and the attachment contains information about delivery of the message to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15) decompressing the message in accordance with the particular compression to provide a first digital fingerprint of the message (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 1-2); decrypting the compressed encrypted version of the message in accordance with the particular encryption to provide a second digital fingerprint of the message (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 30-32); and comparing the first and second digital fingerprints of the message to determine the authenticity of the message (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 2-15), Tomkow failed to disclose that the attachment was separate from the message.

Meyer teaches that in at email server, meta-content can be added in the form of an html attachment to a email by (1) separating the email body from the header, (2) extracting the email send date, (3) extracting various named entities, (4) executing a summarization process to produce a document summary, (5) normalization of dates and currency, (6) color-encoding dates, (7) sorting and displaying dates, (8) annotation by color-coding, (9) creating hyperlinks to external HTML documents, and (10) converting special characters to HTML ampersand characters (See Meyer Fig. 1 and Fig. 7a and Paragraph 0091-0095).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Meyer in the E-mail system of Tomkow, by providing an HTML index attachment, to each email of Tomkow, the index attachment containing meta-content. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to simplify the use and management of the e-mails for recipients. It further would have been obvious in this combination that the meta-content index would have been digitally signed and verified by the system, because Tomkow disclosed that the message and all attachments would be signed and verified (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-31).

Regarding claim 40, Tomkow disclosed in a method of transmitting a message and an attachment from a sender through a server displaced from the recipient, the steps at the server of: identifying the sender (See Tomkow Page 16 Line 10 – Page 17 Line 5), providing the attachment and the message stripped of the attachment (See Tomkow Page 29 Lines 21-31), providing a string formed from the identification of the sender, the attachment and the message stripped of the attachment (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-31), and hashing the string (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-31), encrypting the hash of the hashed string (Tomkow Page 40 Lines

19-31); digitally sealing the encrypted hash of the hashed string by attaching the encrypted hash of the hashed string to [the email] (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-31); and sending to the recipient the message and the encrypted hash of the hash string (Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-31), but Tomkow failed to disclose attaching the hash to an HTML file or sending the HTML file including the hash.

Meyer teaches that in at email server, meta-content can be added in the form of an html attachment to a email by (1) separating the email body from the header, (2) extracting the email send date, (3) extracting various named entities, (4) executing a summarization process to produce a document summary, (5) normalization of dates and currency, (6) color-encoding dates, (7) sorting and displaying dates, (8) annotation by color-coding, (9) creating hyperlinks to external HTML documents, and (10) converting special characters to HTML ampersand characters (See Meyer Fig. 1 and Fig. 7a and Paragraph 0091-0095).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Meyer in the E-mail system of Tomkow, by providing an HTML index attachment, to each email of Tomkow, the index attachment containing meta-content. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to simplify the use and management of the e-mails for recipients. It further would have been obvious in this combination that the meta-content index would have been digitally signed and verified by the system, because Tomkow disclosed that the message and all attachments would be signed and verified (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-31).

Regarding claim 2, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the server creates digital fingerprints from the digital signatures and from the message and the attachment to authenticate

the message and the attachment on the basis of the digital fingerprints (See Tomkow Page 12 Lines 1-6 and Page 29 Lines 21-26 and Page 40 Lines 19-31).

Regarding claim 3, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the attachment includes interim stations between the recipient and the server (See Tomkow Page 2 Lines 1-3) and wherein the message and the attachment, and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment, are transmitted from the server to the sender to provide for a determination at the server for the sender of the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 22 Line 14 – Page 23 Line 30).

Regarding claim 4, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the message and the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment are not retained at the sender when the message and the attachment and the digital signatures are transmitted from the server to the sender (See Tomkow Page 25 Lines 15-21).

Regarding claim 5, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the message and the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment are transmitted from the server to the sender (See Tomkow Page 22 Line 15 – Page 23 Line 30).

Regarding claim 6, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the sender transmits to the server, to authenticate the message, the information supplied by the server to the sender and wherein the server operates upon the information from the sender to authenticate the message (See Tomkow Page 26 Line 1 – Page 28 Line 4).

Regarding claim 7, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the message and the digital signature of the message are discarded after the message and the digital signature are transmitted by the server to the sender (See Tomkow Page 25 Lines 4-16).

Regarding claim 9, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed transmitting to the recipient the state of authenticity of the message on the basis of the results of the comparison of the digital fingerprints (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15).

Regarding claim 10, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed transmitting to the server the message and the attachment, and receiving from the sender the message and the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment, producing digital fingerprints of the message, the attachment and the digital signatures, and comparing the digital fingerprints relating to the message, and the digital fingerprints relating to the attachment, to determine the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 26 Line 1 – Page 28 Line 4).

Regarding claim 11, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed disposing of the message and the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment after transmitting this information to the sender (See Tomkow Page 25 Lies 4-16).

Regarding claim 12, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed at the server: providing at the server, at the same time as the reception of the message, an attachment including the identity of the sender and the identity and address of the server and the identity and address of the recipient and the time of transmission of the message from the server to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 30 Line 14 – Page 31 Line 26), transmitting from the server to the recipient the attachment at the same time as the transmission of the message (See Tomkow Page 30 Line 14 – Page 31 Line 26), and receiving from the recipient at the server the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 30 Line 14 – Page 31 Line 26), providing digital fingerprints of the message, the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15), providing an indication of the authentication of the attachment on the basis of a

comparison at the server of the digital fingerprints relating to the message and the digital fingerprints relating to the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15).

Regarding claim 13, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed transmitting from the server to the recipient an indication of the authenticity of the message on the basis of the comparison of the digital fingerprints relating to the message and the digital fingerprints relating to the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15).

Regarding claim 15, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that digital fingerprints are provided at the server of the message and the attachment and digital fingerprints are provided at the server of the digital signatures of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15) and wherein a comparison is provided at the server of the digital fingerprints of the message and the digital signature of the message, and the attachment and the digital signature of the attachment, to determine the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15).

Regarding claim 16, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the indications of the state of authenticity of the message and the attachment are transmitted from the server to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15) and wherein the message and the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment are discarded at the server when the indications of the authenticity of the message and the attachment are transmitted from the server to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 35 Lines 11-13).

Regarding claim 17, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the message and the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment are transmitted from the server to the sender and wherein the server produces digital fingerprints of the message and the attachment

and digital fingerprints of the digital signature of the message and the attachment and wherein the server compares the digital fingerprints relating to the message, and the digital fingerprints relating to the attachment, to determine the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 22 Line 14 – Page 23 Line 30 and Page 26 Line 1 – Page 28 Line 4).

Regarding claim 18, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the server transmits to the recipient the results of the comparison and wherein the server discards the message and the attachment and the digital signatures of the message and the attachment when the server transmits the message and the attachment and the digital signature of the message and the attachment to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 25 Line 3 – Page 28 Line 4).

Regarding claim 28, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed transmitting to the recipient the results of the comparison of the first and second digital fingerprints of the message and the first and second digital fingerprints of the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15).

Regarding claims 19-23, 30, 31 Tomkow and Meyer disclosed that the message is received at the server through the internet and wherein the message and the digital signature of the message are transmitted to the recipient through the internet, and that the state of authenticity of the message is transmitted through the internet to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 43 Lines 3-28).

Regarding claim 32, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed the attachment includes the identity of the sender and the identity and the address of the server and the identity and address of the recipient and the time of transmission of the message from the server to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 30 Line 14 – Page 31 Line 26).

Claims 43-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tomkow and Meyer, and further in view of Stark et al (Patent Application Publication 2002/0131566) hereinafter referred to as Stark.

Regarding claim 43, Tomkow disclosed in a method of authenticating at a recipient a message and an attachment transmitted from a sender to the recipient through a server displaced from the recipient, the steps of: providing at the recipient a string comprising an encrypted embedded hash of a string including an identification of the sender, the message and a hash of the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 19-32), decrypting the string (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 32-33), hashing the string less the hash of the string (See Tomkow Page 42 Line 1), comparing the hash of the string less the hash of the string and the embedded hash (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 1-2), and using the results of the comparison to indicate to the recipient the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 2-15), but Tomkow failed to disclose that the encrypted string was compressed, or decompressing the encrypted string.

Stark teaches that in order to make email data smaller, the data should be compressed to make it smaller prior to transmission, and should be decompressed upon reception (See Stark Abstract).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Stark in the email system of Tomkow by compressing the modified message, and later decompressing the modified message in order to allow for comparison. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to provide a smaller message for transmission.

Regarding claim 46, Tomkow disclosed in a method of authenticating at a recipient a message and an attachment transmitted from a sender to the recipient, providing an attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 19-32), providing at the recipient on encryptment of a hashed string including information relating to the identification of the sender, the attachment and the message stripped of the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 19-32), decrypting the encrypted hash of the hashed string (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 32-33), separating the hash from the string (See Tomkow Page 42 Line 1), forming a hash from the information relating to the identification of the sender, the attachment and the message stripped of the attachment (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 1-2), comparing the hash separated from the string and the hash formed from the information in the string (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 2-15), and using the results of the comparison to indicate to the recipient the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 42 Lines 2-15), but Tomkow failed to disclose that the encrypted string was compressed, or decompressing the encrypted string.

Stark teaches that in order to make email data smaller, the data should be compressed to make it smaller prior to transmission, and should be decompressed upon reception (See Stark Abstract).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Stark in the email system of Tomkow by compressing the modified message, and later decompressing the modified message in order to allow for comparison. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to provide a smaller message for transmission.

Regarding claims 44 and 47, Tomkow and Stark disclosed separating the attachment from the message, hashing the separated attachment, comparing the hashed separated attachment and the hashed attachment in the string, and using the results of the comparison provided in the previous step to indicate the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 19 – Page 42 Line 15).

Regarding claim 45, Tomkow and Stark disclosed recovering the message and the attachment and transmitting the recovered message and attachment to the recipient with the indication of their authenticity (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 19-25).

Claims 33-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tomkow and Meyer, and further in view of Stark et al (Patent Application Publication 2002/0131566) hereinafter referred to as Stark.

Regarding claim 33, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed an a method of transmitting a message from a sender through a server displaced from the recipient, the steps at the server of: receiving the message and an attachment that is not part of the message from the recipient at a website providing at the server for an indication of the authenticity of the message (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 28-32 and the rejection of claim 1 above), providing at the server for an encrypted version of the combination of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 19-32), decrypting the encrypted version of the combination of the message and the attachment in accordance with the particular encryption to provide a digital fingerprint of the combination of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow Page 41 Lines 32-33), and comparing second digital fingerprint to determine the authenticity of the message and the attachment (See Tomkow

Page 42 Lines 1-5), but Tomkow and Meyer failed to disclose that the encrypted version was also compressed, decompressing the compressed encrypted version of the combination of the message and the attachment in accordance with the particular compression to provide a first digital fingerprint of the combination of the message and the attachment for comparison.

Stark teaches that in order to make email data smaller, the data should be compressed to make it smaller prior to transmission, and should be decompressed upon reception (See Stark Abstract).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Stark in the email system of Tomkow by compressing the modified message, and later decompressing the modified message in order to allow for comparison. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to provide a smaller message for transmission.

Regarding claim 34, the combination of Tomkow and Meyer and Stark disclosed transmitting to the recipient the results of the comparison of the first and second digital fingerprints (See Tomkow Page 41 Line 28 – Page 42 Line 15).

Regarding claim 35, see the rejection of claim 19 above.

Regarding claims 36 and 37, see the rejection of claim 29 above.

Claims 38-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tomkow and Meyer, and further in view of Kaufman et al. (US Patent Number 5,764,772) hereinafter referred to as Kaufman.

Regarding claim 38, Tomkow and Meyer disclosed in a method of transmitting a message and an attachment from a sender to a recipient through a server displaced from the recipient,

including the steps at the server of identifying the sender (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 19-24), hashing the attachments (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 21-25), stripping the message of the attachments, hashing the identification of the sender, the hashed attachments and the message to form a hashed string (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 22-26), encrypting the hashed string (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 26-28), and digitally sealing the encrypted hashed string by attaching the encrypted hashed string to an HTML file and attaching the HTML file including the encrypted hashed string to the message (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 26-30 and the rejection of claim 1 above), but Tomkow and Meyer failed to disclose hashing the hashed string and encrypting the result if the hashing of the hashed string.

Kaufman teaches that in order to protect against the use of a lookup table to compute hashes, the hash should be performed multiple times (See Kaufman Col. 10 Line 64-Col. 11 Line 6).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Kaufman by hashing the hashes of Tomkow. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to prevent the generation of a hash table corresponding to the hashing system.

Regarding claim 39, Tomkow and Kaufman disclosed adding the message to the encrypted hash of the hashed string, and transmitting the message and the encrypted hash of the hashed string to the recipient (See Tomkow Page 40 Lines 26-31).

Conclusion

Claims 1-24,26-28,30-40 and 43-47 have been rejected.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew T. Henning whose telephone number is (571) 272-3790. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Matthew Henning/
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2131
1/22/2008